651-0031 MENT OF COMMERCE

Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. D Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

COMPLETE IF KNOWN Substitute for form 1449A/PTO 09/980,462 Application Number INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Filing Date November 30, 2001 First Named Inventor Vellekoop (use as many sheets as necessary) Group Art Unit **Examiner Name** 30394-1059 Sheet 1 of 1 Attorney Docket Number **U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS** Pages, Columns, Lines, Name of Patentee or Date of Examiner Cite U.S. Patent Document Initials No. Applicant of Cited Publication Where Relevant Kind Code Document of Cited Passages or Relevant Number (if known) Document Figures Appear Zanzucchi, et al. 01/26/1999 5,863,708 FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Pages, Columns, Lines Examiner Cit Foreign Patent Document Name of Patentee of Date of Applicant of Cited Where Relevant Publication Initials Kind Office ³ Code 5 No. Document of Cited Passages or Relevant Number T Document Figures Appear (if known) **PCT** WO98/03841 Scepter Scientific, Inc. 29.01.1998 **PCT** 08.08.1996 WO96/24030 Abbott Laboratories Deutsche ITT Industries 14.05.1998 DE 196 46 505 **A1** GmbH M 21.01.1998 EP 0 819 942 A2 Hitachi, Ltd. Date Examiner

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

Considered

[F:\ANNETTE\Los&Stigter-Vellekoop-1449.PTO.doc] 30394-1059

Signature

^{1.} Unique citation designation number. 2. See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. 3. Enter office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). 4. For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. 5. Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. 6. Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.